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A BIG JOB, BUT ITS DEAD EASY

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Prairie States Are Swept By Twisters

Many Persons Killed and Property Damage Will Pass \$4,000,000.

Kansas City, Mo. — Tornado and storm casualties in middle western states stood at more than 200 dead and upward of 600 injured, many probably fatally.

Hundreds were homeless in five states visited by a series of freak storms that started Saturday and reached a climax Monday when large areas were devastated in Arkansas, Missouri, Texas and Illinois. Torrential rains over the week end added to property losses estimated at millions of dollars.

Arkansas reported 70 known dead and more than 300 injured in the wake of tornadoes that swept from the southern section of the state to the northeast counties. Lawrence county was hardest hit. Twenty-eight perished there and approximately 200 were injured. Eighteen were dead and 10 unaccounted for at Strong and North in Union county, while eight were killed in Cleveland county.

Seventy-three persons were known to have been killed in a dozen Missouri communities. Sixty died in a tornado that razed the business section of Poplar Bluff in southeast Missouri. Relief workers had placed 42 bodies in morgues, while 12 bodies were taken to homes in the damaged residential district.

Ten deaths resulted from tornadoes in central Missouri. Seven were killed in Gallaway county in the vicinity of Auxvasse, New Bloomfield, Guthrie and Carrington. A 70-mile gale that raked St. Louis caused three deaths.

Texas reported 33 dead, more than 100 injured and property damage exceeding \$1,000,000 from twisters that dipped at scattered points in Dallas, Collin, Hunt and Lamar counties.

INDORSE IDAHO NORTH AND SOUTH RAIL LINE

Portland, Or. — Impetus was given the movement having as its objective issuance by the interstate commerce commission of an order to the Union Pacific system to construct water-grade rail connection between Homestead, Or., and Lewiston, Idaho.

Officials of Idaho and Washington and civic delegations from those states and Oregon, met at the Portland Chamber of Commerce and perfected an organization which will, it is contemplated, institute a new action with the federal commission requesting the rail extension.

Public service commissions of the three Pacific northwest states will be requested to father the complaint before the interstate commerce commission.

Washington and Idaho commissions have agreed to co-operate. A special committee was named to wait upon the Oregon commission and request its participation.

Twenty-nine persons, 11 of them officials of Washington and Idaho, came to Portland for the meeting.

Ruth Snyder and Gray Found Guilty

New York.—Mrs Ruth Brown Snyder and Henry Judd Gray, her paramour, are to pay with their lives for the crime that snatched them from obscurity and made them internationally known. After deliberating less than two hours, a jury convicted them of the murder of Mrs. Snyder's husband, Albert Snyder, magazine art editor. Death sentence is mandatory for first degree murder.

Smallpox Shows Gain in United States

New York.—The American Association for Medical Progress announced that the United States for the year 1926 reported more cases of smallpox than any other country outside of Asia, although the percentage was less than that of 1925. Only two states, Rhode Island and Vermont, were entirely free from the disease last year.

Hudson Maxim is Taken by Death

Hoptacong, N. J.—Hudson Maxim, who invented smokeless powder, the Maxim silencer, detonating fuses for armor plated projectiles and other devices which have contributed to the horrors of war and violent death, died peacefully in his bed recently, at the age of 74 years. Maxim was the victim of anæmia.

Miss Velta Mansfield Becomes the Bride of Mr. Nat Kimball

Miss Velta Mansfield, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Mansfield, became the bride of Mr. Nat Kimball of Pendleton, at a pretty home wedding Sunday morning at the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. A. W. Logsdon in Athena, Rev. E. M. Bollinger, pastor of the Athena Baptist church, officiating.

The bride wore a beautiful gown of orchid chiffon, with orchid hat, and carried bride roses and lilies of the valley, while spring flowers and blossoms made a most fitting decorative background for the wedding ceremony.

Miss Minnie Crooks was the maid of honor, and Mr. Philo Rounds was best man. Little Donna Jean Logsdon made a beautiful, fairy-like flower girl. Miss Helen Huntley played the wedding march and Miss Savilla Welk sang "Just A-Wearyin' for You" and "I Love You Truly," accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Omer Stephens.

About fifty guests were present at the wedding and for the wedding breakfast. The bride and groom are on a wedding trip to Portland, Seattle and Vancouver. On their return they will take their residence at Pendleton. The bride has a host of friends in Athena where she formerly resided, who extend their best wishes. Mr. Kimball is the son of Mrs. A. A. Kimball of Pendleton, and brother of Mrs. Omer Stephens of this city.

John Gordon, Aged 71 Dies at Home of Son

John Gordon, a pioneer farmer of the Couse Creek district, died Saturday at the home of his son, Jesse, north of Athena, after a long continued illness. He was recently brought to the home of his son from Spokane, where he had resided in late years.

Mr. Gordon went to the Couse Creek section in an early day, and for many years was a successful farmer there. He had been in ill health for many months, and his son Jesse had made frequent trips to Spokane to assist him.

Funeral services were held at the Methodist church in Weston, Sunday, and interment took place at Kees cemetery, beside his wife who preceded him to the grave more than thirty years ago.

Mr. Gordon was born in Ohio in 1856 and crossed the plains by ox team with his parents in 1863. The family settled on the Walla Walla river near Milton. He is survived by the following children: Cecil Gordon of Okanogan, Washington; Mrs. F. E. West of Portland, Oregon; Jesse Gordon of Athena, Oregon; Mrs. Lela Saling of New York city, and Dallas Gordon of Eden, Idaho.

Weston in League

The Big Four baseball league was organized Wednesday in Walla Walla with the following teams, says the Leader: Helix, Milton-Freewater, Electric Supply and Fixtures company of Walla Walla and Weston. Charles Hendricks of Walla Walla was elected president and Robert Reynolds of Weston secretary-treasurer. The league opens next Sunday afternoon, Milton-Freewater at Weston, Walla Walla at Helix.

Appear on Program

During the divisional declamatory contest in the grades held recently at Adams a very clever and diverting skit was given as a special number by four Athena pupils. The young performers have accepted an invitation to present this on the pioneers' reunion program, says the Leader. They are Aaron Douglas, Danny Reeder, Arlene Foster and Fern Carsten.

Plant Tomatoes

Tomato plants are now being set out by the members of the Freewater Co-operative and independent growers of the valley. A large acreage says the Times, is in prospect and growers are hoping for a better crop than last year when blight played havoc with tomato yields.

The Class Present

The present made to the school by the graduating class of '27' is a superb 30-day Seth Thomas clock, ordered through H. H. Hill, Athena jeweler. The clock is round in design, with large face and numerals of sufficient size to be seen from any part of the hall in the school building.

Athena High School Commencement Week Activities Come to Close Tonight



GRADUATING CLASS 1927

TOP ROW—Lois Johnson, Norman McIntyre, Fred Radtke, Lenore McNair.

SECOND ROW—Arthur Taylor, Jennamae Read, Dale Stephens.

THIRD ROW—Edna DeFreese, Supt. O. C. Hadley, La Vone Pittman.

FOURTH ROW—Dalberth Taylor, Sarah Jantzen, Margaret Lee Granville Cannon.

FIFTH ROW—Lucille Smith, Dorsey Kretzer, Alvin Johnson, Belle Anderson.

The close of a very successful year's work will terminate tonight at the auditorium when Athena high school class of '27' comprising seventeen members, become graduates during commencement exercises lasting the occasion.

Rev. Howard Stover of Salem, Oregon, who heretofore has given commencement addresses in Athena, will deliver the address this evening. The exercises will begin promptly at eight o'clock.

The observance of the culmination of four year's work by the graduating class began on Friday evening April 22, when the Junior-Senior annual banquet took place. This event was followed by the annual class play, "The Time of His Life," which was presented in the auditorium, Tuesday evening, April 26. Then came the annual class picnic at Bingham Springs, Saturday April 30, followed by flunk day, Friday, April 6th.

Then came commencement week, starting with the baccalaureate program at the Christian church, Sunday evening, the sermon being de-

livered by Dr. E. T. Allen, of Whitman college. The church auditorium was beautifully decorated for the occasion, the artistic work of the sophomore class. Following is the program as presented before an audience that filled every seat:

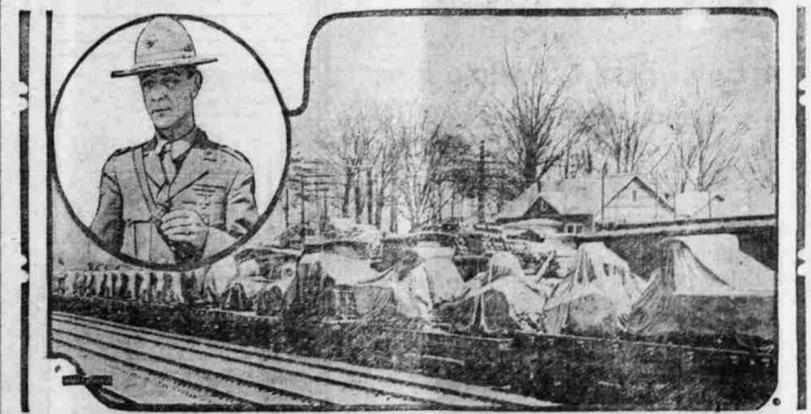
Processional.....Orchestra
Invocation.....Rev. Clifton Phillips
Hymn.....Number 251
Quartette.....
"Oh Lord Remember Me," Cara Roma
Scripture Reading.....
Duet.....
"The Lord Shall Comfort Zion," Carrie B. Adams
Baccalaureate Sermon.....Dr. E. T. Allen
Quartette.....
"Thanks be to God," Stanley Dickson
Hymn.....Number 252
Benediction.....Rev. Clifton Phillips
Final examinations were taken this week, which in addition to activities pertaining to the graduating exercises has made the week a very busy one. Faculty and students have centered

their interest in making the exercises successful in every particular. Seventeen members are enrolled in the class, eight girls and nine boys:

Alvin Anderson, Belle Anderson, Granville Cannon, Edna DeFreese, Sarah Belle Jantzen, Lois Johnson, Dorsey Kretzer, Margaret Lee, Norman McIntyre, Lenore McNair, LaVone Pittman, Fred Radtke, Jennamae Read, Lucille Smith, Dale Stephens, Arthur Taylor and Dalberth Taylor. The program for this evening, follows:

Commencement March.....
.....Miss Lorraine Terry
Invocation.....Rev. D. Loree
Instrumental Solo.....Lois Johnson
Presentation of Class Gift.....
.....Fred Radtke
Class Oration.....Granville Cannon
Vocal Solo.....Jennamae Read
Commencement Address.....
.....Rev. Howard Stover
Presentation of Awards.....Mr. Hadley
Presentation of Diplomas.....Arnold Wood
Benediction.....Rev. Clifton Phillips

Tanks Go to China With the Marines



Long trainloads of tanks and artillery on the way to the Pacific coast, whence they were shipped to China with the 1,500 marines that left from San Pedro to reinforce the detachments already at Shanghai. Inset is Capt. N. E. London, commander of the tanks.

William E. Potts Pioneer Farmer Passes Away at Age of 87

William E. Potts, for forty-five years a farmer of the Helix neighborhood, died Friday night at St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton, after suffering for a long time with bright's disease. The end had been expected for several days, and when the patient passed away, a number of relatives who had been summoned from Canada, were present.

Mr. Potts was born at McIntyre, Ontario province, Canada and came to Umatilla county when 22 years of age. He was well known throughout the county, and was actively identified with the Caledonian picnics which were held at Athena in former years.

He is survived by his widow and one son. He was a brother of the late James Potts, who died at his home in Athena several months ago. Funeral services were conducted at the Pendleton Presbyterian church, Monday afternoon. Interment took place at Weston.

International Service Given to Farmers Gratis

The attention of the Press is called to the commendable service the International Harvester company is giving to purchasers of combine harvesters at Athena and other wheat producing sections of the Northwest, where harvesters were purchased last season.

George Nesbit and three other company experts are working out of Athena, servicing fourteen harvesters for owners free of charge. This service includes replacements of enclosed gearshifts, leveling device, radiators, etc., on machines purchased last year, which will bring the machines strictly up to standard of the new 1927 machines, without one cent of expense to the owners.

As a result of the splendid performance of the machines sold last year, and interest the International people are taking to make their machines absolutely capable of meeting every requirement of heavy grain handling—to the extent of replacing all worn or defective parts found on last year's machines—Rogers & Goodman, local representatives of the company, are finding no trouble in selling the harvester here.

Umatilla Baptist Association

The twenty-second annual meeting of the Umatilla County Baptist Association will convene at Hermiston May 13, 14 and 15. The Athena Baptist church has been given two numbers on the program. Mrs. E. M. Bollinger will address the meeting on "How the Women's Missionary Society Benefits the Local Church." Charles Betts, assistant moderator, will respond to the address of welcome, Miss Margaret Lee will direct one of the song services, and Kohler Betts will preside at the business meeting.

A Weeder Demonstration

This forenoon, between the hours of 8 o'clock and 12 a. m., a demonstration of blade weeders will be at the Koepke place, south of Athena. Weeders manufactured by the Snider company of Weston, the Pendleton Iron Works, and Penland Brothers of Pendleton, will be practically demonstrated at that time, and it is hoped a large number of farmers will be present to see the weeders in operation.

Spring Musical Recital

The piano students, comprising the class of Mrs. Lillian Fredericks will be heard in recital Wednesday evening May 18 at 8 o'clock, in the high school auditorium at Weston. Mrs. Fredericks' class contains pupils from Weston and Athena, and a cordial invitation to attend the recital is extended all in both towns, who may be interested.

Nifty Fox Puppies

Six nifty silver fox puppies have arrived at the Eastern Oregon Fox farm, owned by F. B. Wood in Athena. The little fellows, while relying with confidence on protection from their mothers have reached the stage of gentleness where they permit their keeper to fondle them.

Death of Mrs. Barnett

Mrs. Emily Barnett died at her home in Weston early Monday. She is survived by one daughter and three sons as follows: Miss Alma Barnett and Andy Barnett of Weston, Earl Barnett and Shirley Barnett of Portland.

Nevada Treasurer Alleged To Be Short

Three of State's Prominent Citizens Charged With Embezzlement.

reno, Nev.—Three of Nevada's best known citizens spent Sunday in jail, two of them looking from their cell window out across the main street of the capitol to the state house, formerly scene of their employment at Carson City. They are Ed Malley, state treasurer; George A. Cole, ex-state controller; and H. C. Clapp, ex-cashier of the Carson Valley bank. The three are charged with embezzlement.

The men are involved in one of the most clever schemes, according to investigators, possible to devise. Through their alleged machinations they are alleged to have embezzled \$513,322.15 from the state or the bank. It is not decided which will be the ultimate loser.

A feature of the operations with which the men are charged was that all the alleged transactions were of a nature that they would not be discovered by a bank examiner or qualified accountant until something broke the combination. That occurred when Clapp was discharged as cashier of the Carson Valley bank. His discharge had no bearing on the case, it was authoritatively stated.

A large sum passed through the Carson Valley bank each year. All collections for taxes, fees and other items are paid by check, sent through the mail as a rule. The universal confidence accorded Malley and the bank is declared to have been the basis for the transactions, under which allegedly fictitious cashier's checks were placed in the state treasury.

The men were arrested on a complaint sworn by Governor Balzar.

HIGHWAY CHAIRMAN SUES FOR RECORDS

Olympia, Wash.—Difficulties of the state highway committee were brought to the state supreme court in a mandamus action instituted by the attorney-general against Roland H. Hartley, as governor of the state and ex-officio member of the highway committee, and Samuel J. Humes, as state highway engineer, requiring them to return to C. W. Clausen, chairman of the highway committee, or to allow access to books, records, documents, papers, minute books and unopened bids of highway contractors which they are charged with wrongfully having in their possession or under their control.

The respondents were notified that Friday, May 20, at 10 A. M., "or as soon thereafter as counsel could be heard," was set for the application for the peremptory writ of mandate.

The action was based on affidavits of W. G. Potts, state treasurer, and C. W. Clausen, state auditor, ex-officio members of the committee, alleging that minutes of the highway committee meeting on May 3 at which George T. McCoy was elected secretary and C. W. Clausen chairman, and bids of firms seeking contracts for state highway work to be awarded on that day, were carried away.

Attorney-General Dunbar and Assistant Attorney-General Donley will represent the highway committee in the supreme court action.

SET UP NEW WHEAT BUREAU

International Conference Takes Step of Importance.

Kansas City.—The international wheat pool conference at its closing session here voted to establish a permanent international bureau of co-operative marketing to act as a clearing house for statistical information and the development of plans.

Delegates considered the establishment of this bureau the first step toward world co-ordination in pool wheat selling.

C. H. Burnell, Winnipeg, chairman of the conference, urged the United States co-operatives to sign 60 per cent of the wheat production as soon as possible.

Eugene Meyer Heads Farm Loan

Washington, D. C.—Eugene Meyer and his colleagues on the war finance corporation were named by President Coolidge as members of the federal farm loan board. Reorganization of that agency will be effected.